

OUR TOWN

A Digital Newsletter from the Town of Dover, MA



Welcome back to Dover's digital newsletter!

If you didn't catch the first issue of this newsletter, here is a quick overview of what it's all about. In Dover there are many volunteers and Town staff working to keep the Town running smoothly. This newsletter will summarize the projects being worked on and how they will impact **Our Town**. It will also notify residents of the important decisions that need to be made and suggestions on how to can get involved. Events and other Town-related updates will also be included. We hope you enjoy this and find it useful. This is a volunteer-driven effort. If you would like to get involved or have any feedback, we'd love to hear from you at websiteteam@doverma.gov.

If you are part of a town committee and would like to submit content for the January issue, please contact Ruth Townsend at aaandrtownsend@yahoo.com



Sign up for updates



Sign up [HERE](#) for updates and to subscribe to this newsletter.

- For this newsletter go to the section 'News Flash' (last section on list) and choose 'I Dover Town News'

VOL. 1, NO. 2, DECEMBER 2021

HERE'S WHAT'S UP!

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Board of Selectmen



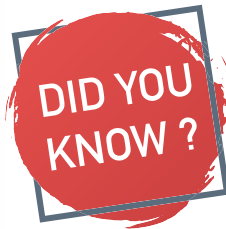
Budget Season is upon us and Town staff and volunteers have been working hard on the FY23 Budget. To keep informed on Dover's budgetary process and finances, residents can go to the dedicated Town webpage [here](#). This page is updated regularly and contains past budgets, audits, annual Warrant Committee blue books, and OPEB information.



Council on Aging (COA)

SAND FOR SENIORS

Dover Council on Aging in partnership with the Men's Breakfast Group at The Dover Church will once again prepare and deliver buckets of sand/salt to Dover seniors. If you would like a bucket of sand/salt (complete with lid and scoop) for your steps or walkway, email coa@doverma.gov or call the COA office at 508.315.5734. Buckets will be delivered in early December. Thank you to The Friends of Dover COA for generously funding this program.

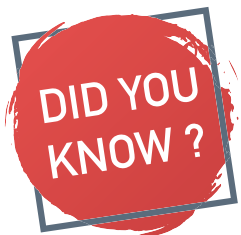


The COA has a newsletter! Click [here](#) to view the current issue and be up-to-date on all of their services and events!

Community Center Building Committee

Moving out...

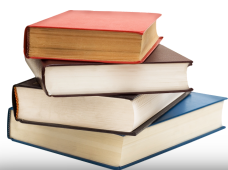
Demolition and building is expected to begin in late Spring 2022 but work has already started in preparation for the temporary move. The Dover Foundation, Parent Talk, and Town departments have begun working to recycle and move items into storage.



You can catch up on many of the Town Committee meetings, including the Community Center Building Committee on the town's You Tube channel, click [here](#) to see what's available....



Board of Library Trustees



CONGRATS

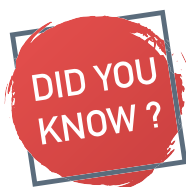
Congratulations to Dr. Kay Petersen, a recent recipient of the Dover Town Library Trustees' Recognition Award for Outstanding Service. The Board honored Dr. Peterson for her tireless and constructive contribution to the town's pandemic response. While recognizing Kay for her direct counsel to the library, the Trustees also view her as a great resource for the many town officers, employees, and community members who've shouldered the unique pressures and tough choices of this past year and a half. As expressed by Trustee Tracy Tobin, "Month after month, it feels like these efforts have been 24/7. I'm glad we can offer some recognition by honoring Kay."

Parks and Recreation



Registration is OPEN now for Winter programs!

[Click here](#) to see what the Town is offering for programs.



Parks and Recreation have a newsletter too!!

Click on logo to download.



Dover **PARKS & RECREATION**
where you live, where you grow



Our Schools

Minuteman High School – Apply Today!

Minuteman High School is a great option for Dover families. With 19 career technical education majors, award-winning academics, 14 sports teams and 20 clubs and activities, students excel at what they love to do - and what they do well.

For the Class of 2021, 67% of graduates immediately enrolled in a college or university, and 23% began working in their career trade of study. Minuteman's 19 career majors include automotive, biotechnology, engineering, design and visual communications, multimedia, web programming, plumbing, electrical, culinary arts - and a new major: animal science.

Dover is a member of the Minuteman Regional School District. Visit minuteman.org/admissions to learn more on the admissions process, [watch a video with current students](#), [read about students and alumni](#), take a [video tour of the new school building](#) that opened in 2019.

Our Schools (Con't.)

Live Theater is Back! Dover-Sherborn Middle School Presents Disney's Descendants!

Based on the popular Disney Channel Original Movies, Disney's Descendants: The Musical is a brand-new musical comedy featuring the beloved characters and hit songs from the films.

It is present-day, and in the kingdom of Auradon, all of Disney's beloved heroes and royalty are living happily ever after, safe from the terrifying villains and troublesome sidekicks they have banished to the magic-free Isle of the Lost. That is until Ben, the benevolent teenage son of Belle and King Adam (The Beast), offers a chance of redemption for the troublemaking offspring of the evilest villains. Mal, Evie, Jay and Carlos - the children of Maleficent, the Evil Queen, Cruella De Vil, and Jafar - are welcomed to Auradon Prep to attend school with the children of their parents' sworn enemies. Now entering a completely foreign world and way of life, the four Villain Kids have a difficult choice to make: should they follow in their parents' wicked footsteps or learn to be good?



This spectacular NEW stage production will feature many of your favorite showstoppers. . .AND some of Dover Sherborn's most talented teens showcasing their song & dance skills LIVE! on stage! Tickets are on sale NOW at www.ticketstage.com and will also be sold at the door if the shows are not sold out. Showtimes at Mudge Auditorium are evenings Thursday, December 9th, Friday, December 10th and Saturday, December 11th, with a matinee performance on Saturday, December 11th.

Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets

International Night at Chickering Elementary School

Chickering hosted an International Cultural Night on November 9th. Congratulations and thank you to all our participants and organizers! We had 20 countries represented and an excellent turnout of enthusiastic "travelers", complete with passports!



Our Schools (Con't.)

Giving back.....

Students and families collected food items for the Family Promise Shelter in Natick for Thanksgiving baskets. 21 well stocked baskets were delivered to the shelter and redistributed in baskets to families in need. To learn more, visit the Chickering CARES Padlet: <https://padlet.com/community18/chickeringcares>



Turkey Trot!

The Turkey Trot returned to Chickering this year on Wednesday November 24th! Students and teachers traveled our Natural Trail, encouraged by our fifth grade students along the way as guides. The Nature Trail was installed around the school property as an Eagle project several years ago. Since then, our PTO has installed almost 40 birdhouses along the path and fields in hopes of encouraging chickadee and bluebird nesting spots.



Recycling Committee



NEW Furniture Collection dates announced to aid New Life Furniture Bank of Walpole.

Dover Recycling Committee announces special furniture collections will be offered on Saturday, December 18th, and subsequently the third Saturday of every month. New Life Furniture Bank of Walpole will be on-site to accept specific items of furniture for families in need.



What is New Life...

New Life is a non-profit organization that accepts furniture and household items and provides them at no charge to those in need. It does not accept items that need repair. If an item is not suitable for a family member or friend, it is not suitable for donation. Please check their website for acceptable items www.newlifefb.org.

Volunteers are needed to staff the truck for two-hour shifts on those dates. Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aaaaa28a31-volunteer>



Recycling Committee (Con't.)

Recycling over the Holidays

The Dover Recycling Committee (DRC) has guidelines for recycling during the holiday season to encourage all to continue to reduce, reuse, recycle and conserve town funds.

- **FOOD WASTE:** You can bag and dispose ALL food waste at the transfer station, including turkey carcasses, egg shells, all bones, fruits and vegetables. Deposit them into the barrels next to the compost area. Food must be bagged. Items that are NOT acceptable are recyclables, cooking oil, yard waste, boxes, cups and cartons.
- **WRAPPING PAPER:** DON'T THROW IN THE MIXED PAPER TRAILER. Please throw away in the regular trash as it is chemically treated with fire retardant and cannot be recycled. Purchase wrapping paper made from recycled materials. Get creative by using newspapers, brown paper bags (recyclable) or gift bags (reusable) for your gift giving.
- **CHRISTMAS TREES, WREATHS AND PLANTS:** Strip all ornaments, tinsel and wires and you can deposit in the yard waste section of the Transfer Station.
- **HOLIDAY TANGLERS:** Keep holiday tangles out of your recycling, as they create a mess once inside recycling facilities. Malfunctioning lights and tinsel should be thrown into the trash.
- **BATTERIES:** Alkaline batteries should be thrown in the regular trash. Non-Alkaline and button batteries are collected separately and should be given to the Transfer Station personnel.
- **GLASS BEVERAGE BOTTLES:** Please remove all caps and corks before placing them in the glass disposal trailer and separate clear glass from color glass.
- **BEVERAGE CONTAINERS, BOTTLES, CANS** (deposit redeemable): Place in the deposit redemption trailer supporting our local non-profits. This includes soda, beer, and seltzers, but NOT water bottles.
- **CARDBOARD BOXES:** Breakdown and flatten all boxes and remove plastic liners and Styrofoam. You can offer sturdy cardboard boxes to neighbors on Nextdoor.com and Freecycle.com. These are the sites used to find or dispose of free moving boxes. Explore givebackbox.com to pack household goods and clothing you no longer need to donate to charity.
- **PLASTIC BAGS:** Single-use plastic bags from markets and stores are not recyclable. The transfer station has a barrel for these bags in front of the plastics roll-off or just put it in the regular trash. Please consider using reusable bags when you shop. Do NOT use bags to recycle your other plastic containers.
- **SHOP SUSTAINABLY:** More brands than ever before are using recycled materials in their products. Consider choosing brands that are made with ocean plastic, reused fibers, or recycled paper and that avoid unnecessary packaging.

All Dover residents must have a RED transfer station sticker on their automobile. The stickers do not have the town name or zip code so residents can feel comfortable displaying them on their windshields. Stickers will be checked during the holiday season. Stickers are FREE!



Planning Board

The Planning Board has been very busy throughout the Summer and Fall attending to routine business while also working on several key proactive planning initiatives: the Housing Production Plan (HPP), the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), the Village Center Visioning Process, and strategic zoning updates. A more detailed explanation of these initiatives can be found by clicking [here](#). Stay tuned to the Planning Board's [website](#) and social media for more information including a Visual Preference Survey to help the board with the Village Visioning Process.



You can sign up for updates from the committees you have an interest in and for general news alerts from the Town website... [click here](#) to sign up now.....

Caryl Management Advisory Committee

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The town has voted to build/renovate a new Community Center which will be a wonderful resource and amenity for the town. Are you interested in being involved in decisions that could affect the running and operation of this building? Did you follow the project updates and wish you could have more input? This is a great opportunity to do just that! The Caryl Management Advisory Committee is looking for new members. They meet about 4 times a year, usually first thing in the morning, virtually. There may be extra work outside of these committee meetings to help with research and development of ideas, but it is not a big time commitment. For more information on the committee's role within the town, please visit their page [here](#).

If you are interested and want to find out more before you commit, please don't hesitate to reach out to Kathy Weld (kwweld@comcast.net), who would be happy to talk to you about this role.

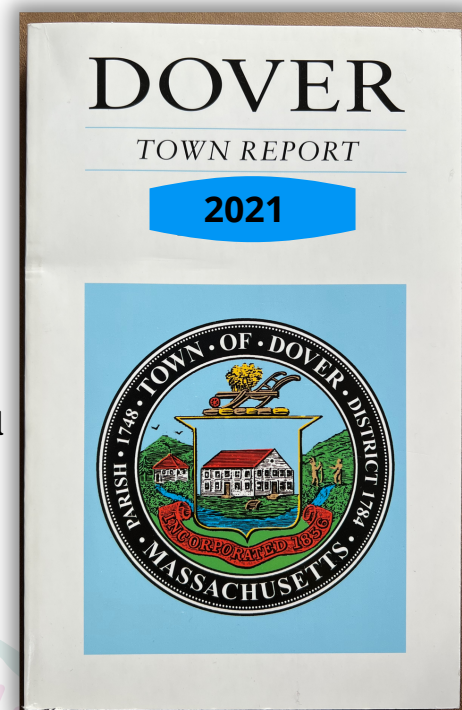


Dover's Board of Health issues a COVID-19 update each week. Check out the Town's [COVID-19 page](#) and sign up to receive the alerts via email or text [here](#).

Town Report Committee

The Town Report Committee (TRC) is responsible each year for compiling, publishing, and disseminating the Town Report—the means through which all departments, boards, and committees provide summaries of their activities during the year.

Work on the 2021 Dover Town Report is just now beginning, as the TRC alerts department heads and board/committee chairs to deadlines and instructions for writing reports, as well as important new procedures to follow as they finalize and send in their 2021 reports. Information for those who wish to submit photos can be found on the Town Report webpage at www.doverma.gov.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The TRC is seeking a new member to join its ranks, to complete an unexpired term ending in June 2022 and to consider a three-year term from that point on. Writing skills and attention to detail are important qualifications. Editorial background would be ideal, but not absolutely necessary. For further information on the details and time involved, please contact Kathy Weld at kwweld@comcast.net or Mary Kalamaras at Mary.Kalamaras@gmail.com.

**Boards and Committees: Want to contribute to
next month's newsletter?**

Please submit content to Ruth at aandrtownsend@yahoo.com by December 15

**We hope you have enjoyed this slice of life from Our Town. Look out for our
next update at the beginning of JANUARY. Until then we hope you enjoy the
holiday season!**

Click below to stay updated on Town news

